(a) The stocks of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1st April, 2006, was 20,09,000 tonnes.

(b) 92.26 lakh tonnes of wheat was purchased by the FCI and Government agencies in the Rabi Marketing Season 2006-07 at the Minimum Support Price of Rs. 650/- per quintal and a bonus of Rs. 50/- per qtl. above the MSP.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This data is not maintained in this Department.

(e) Import contracts for 35 lakh tonnes of wheat on Government account have been finalized, and an additional tender for 4 lakh tonnes has been issued.

(f) Only one vessel carrying 39,339 MTs of wheat arrived on 30.7.2006 at Tuticorin port in the period June-July, 2006.

Difference between consumer purchase price and farmer's selling price

†1832. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MULI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that producing farmer is getting only about 24 per cent to 58 per cent of consumer purchase price in the country;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard and Government's estimation in the above matter; and

(c) whether a decision has been taken by Government to abridge the gap between consumer purchase price and producers selling price by improving the market system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has informed that studies indicate that the share of producers varies from 56% to 88% in foodgrains, 78% to 95% in pulses, 65% to 96% in oilseeds and 33% to 75% in case of fruits and vegetables.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) With a view to improving the marking system and to facilitate competitive marketing, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation had circultated a Model Law on agricultural marketing to State Government and Union Territory Administrations. As a consequence, some State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have amended Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act, Besides, several State Governments have initiated the process of amendment of APMC Act on the lines suggested in the Model Law.

Foodgrain Godowns

1833. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the foodgrain godowns of Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation of India in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether these are sufficient for holding intended stock of foodgrains;

(c) whether Government have plans to construct more godowns in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As on 30th June, 2006, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has a total of 761 owned godowns (covered and CAP) all over the coutnry. The State-wise details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) has a total of 360 godowns all over the country. The State-wise details are given in the statement at Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) Yes, Sir. The FCI is having vacant capacity of 111.58 lac MTs as on 1.7.2006 which is sufficient to hold the stocks for the ensuing Kharif procurement season.

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the current utilization of storage capacity, it has been decided that the FCI will take up construction of new godowns only in the North-Eastern States including Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir from 2005-06 onwards.